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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SUBJECT	Reduction in Power Consumption at East German Chemical Plants	DATE DISTR.	7 December 1953
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On 28 June 1953, a conference was held at the Coordinating and Control Office for Industry and Transportation. It was attended by Dr. Werner Winkler, State Secretary for Chemistry; Hildebrandt (fnu), head of the Chemical Department of the Coordinating Office; Dr. Ehlers (fnu), deputy manager of EK Bitterfeld; a representative of the Bunawerk Schkopau; a representative of the Leuna Werke; and two representatives of the Power Department of the State Planning Commission. The question of the diversion of 40,000,000 W. from power plants of chemical works to civilian consumers was discussed. The two representatives of the State Planning Commission requested that Bunawerk, Leuna Werke, and EK Bitterfeld reduce their power consumption. The representatives of these plants were reluctant to do so. The Leuna representative said that only 8,000,000 W. could be saved, if a very considerable decrease in production were accepted. The Buna representative refused to accept any reduction, unless the production plan were cut. The representative of EK Bitterfeld stated that a 30 percent reduction in aluminum production would result from an electric power cut of 14,000,000 W. by EK Bitterfeld, and definitely refused to accept any reduction. Since the conferees were unable to make a decision on the production cuts involved, the decision was left to the Cabinet Council.

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